

eral purposes. It is gratifying to the Committee, that the expenditures for erecting, fitting up, and furnishing

ing new School-houses, and on account of the Free Academy—subjects upon which the Board is most commonly charged with extravagance—are within the amounts estimated for these purposes; and that not one cent on either of these accounts can be shown to form part of the deficiency existing in the revenue.

The Committee have carefully prepared this statement, because the subject of Public Education is one not only of abstract interest, but of vital consequence to the future welfare of our country; and because it is desirable, for the success of the system, that its chosen administrators should be free, not only from the suspicion of corruption, but from the charge of waste. And for these reasons they solicit for this document the careful consideration of every citizen.

And if those taking an interest in our schools also visit the Schools under the charge of the Board, and by a personal examination form an opinion as to their merits and usefulness, we are convinced that every such visit will tend to strengthen the hold which the system already has upon public confidence.

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**BOARD OF ALDERMEN.**  
THURSDAY, Dec. 14—Ald. ELY in the Chair, and a quorum present.  
PETITIONS REFERRED.

OF Ed. Skidmore, for the appointment as Clerk in one of the Police Courts; of A. S. Feeks, for \$7,169 damages to his property by the proposed extension of Canal-st. and the widening of Walker st.; of S. W. Gance, for \$3,000 damages on the same; of J. W. Towl, for \$1,300 damages on the same; of James McCawry, for \$2,778 damages in consequence of the same.

LAID ON THE TABLE.

A petition from R. Curran, and others, to have a portion of the Park sold, and the new City-Hall

Of Controller Flagg, in answer to a resolution in inquiry, giving his reasons for not paying the draft of the Street Commissioner in favor of John Pettigrew, for \$200,000, on account of his contract for regulating &c., section C of the Second-av.; also, why he refused to issue bonds and pay over, as directed by the Common Council, and approved by the Mayor, August 8, 1853. The Controller refers to

From the Controller, in answer to a resolution calling for a statement of the amount of money paid for costs upon judgments obtained in each and every case of litigation where the City was defendant. The Controller states that the judgment of W. B. Reynolds cost \$92.25; defending the claim for cigars and champagne, alleged to have been used by the veterans of 1812, but actually consumed by the Common Council and their hangers on, \$17.68.

Geo. W. Morton vs. the Mayor, &c., for his salary. \$39 61; S. H. Demott vs. the same, \$59 33. This document was ordered to be printed.

RESOLUTIONS.

By Aid. Trowbridge, that the Special Committee on the new City Hall report to this Board the expediency of adding stories to the present City Hall, or putting a new front, and elevating the same so as to conform with the proposed plans of B. G. and J. Buchanan, and such other alterations as they may think proper. So referred. By Aid. Kelly, that the

Property Clerk of the Tomba Police Court furnish forthwith an account of the stolen property intrusted to his care within the past three months, and the disposition made of the same. Adopted.

HIGH BRIDGE.

A report was concurred in to have a representation of High Bridge painted, and appropriating \$50 for the same.

REYNOLDS CONTRACT.

Ald. C. H. TUCKER called up the printed report of

The Special Committee on the contract of W. B. Reynolds for carrying garbage, offal, &c., from the City, which was carried. The report is in favor of an amicable settlement with Mr. Reynolds; to pay his claims; or rather such amount as three appraisers shall decide upon. Also directing the City Inspector to advertise for proposals for a new contract for five years, and to make the specification the same, or similar, to those in the contract with Mr. Reynolds. This report, after debate as to the number of years for the contract's duration, was adopted.

**STAGES.**  
A paper from the Mayor and Councilmen was concurred in, to give A. Degro the privilege of adding four new stages to his line through Avenue A and other streets.

**OFFICES.**  
Ald. WAKEMAN offered a resolution in favor of holding a special meeting, at 5 P. M., Tuesday, to take into consideration the appointment of sundry clerks for some of the Civil and Police Courts, and inviting the Mayor to meet with the Board on that

Ald. HERRICK opposed this.  
Ald. BLUNT and WAKEMAN supported the resolution, and, after some debate, it was adopted.  
Ald. HOWARD offered a resolution to get the opinion of the Council to the Corporation as to whether the Board of Aldermen can appoint the Court Clerks without the presence of the Mayor. Adopted. Adjourned to Friday.

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ANNUAL MEETING OF THE METHODIST

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE METHODIST TRACT SOCIETY.**  
The annual meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday afternoon at the Mission-Rooms, opposite the Book Concern, at No. 200 Mulberry st. The Rev. NATHAN BASGS presided. About fifty persons were present. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:  
The Bishops are *ex officio* Presidents. The Bishops are: WAUGH, MORRIS, JAMES, SCOTT, SIMPSON, BAKER.

*Vice Presidents*—The Hon. John McLean of Ohio; The Rev. Nathan Bangs, D. D. of New York.  
*Corresponding Secretary*—Joan T. Peck, *ex officio*.  
*Recording Secretary*—Stephen B. Wickens  
*Treasurer*—John B. Edwards, New York.  
*Assistant Treasurer*—L. Swormstedt, Cincinnati.  
A list of Managers was also elected, half of whom are clergy and half laymen.  
The charter, passed by the Legislature, at its last session, was read. It provides that the Society may hold real estate to the value of \$50,000, for the pur-

The Rev. JESSE T. PECK, D. D., Corresponding Secretary of the Society, rendered the report of his labors in the different Conferences, in behalf of this Society.

Receipts and disbursements are shown, as follows:	
Balance on hand, last report.....	\$1,542 39
Received during past three months.....	1,954 73
Total.....	\$3,497 08
Disbursed during the past quarter.....	\$4,554 94
Balance in treasury.....	1,895 59
Total.....	\$6,453 53

After some further business, the Society adjourned, and the meeting resolved itself into a quarterly meeting of the Board of Managers, and disposed of considerable business pertaining to the operations of the Society.

**ANNIVERSARY OF THE JERSEY CITY COLORED SCHOOL.**  
The first Anniversary of the Jersey City Colored School was held in Wildwood's Hall, Newark av., Jersey City, on Wednesday evening. The Rev. Dr. PEPPERSON, of New-York, opened the exercises.

with prayer. The children attending the school—thirty in number—under the superintendence of Miss Ogden, their teacher, delighted a numerous audience with singing and recitation alternately. Miss Ogden was aided in the singing by Messrs. Dias, Hector, and Mrs. Carney, from New York. Some of the children executed solos very creditably.

The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Dr. PENNINGTON, Messrs. COLBY, DIXON, and GOWD, of the Board of Education. The proceedings terminated about 10 o'clock.

It is about three years since this school was established, at which time there were only five pupils. The average attendance is now twenty-seven. The colored population of Jersey City is, according to the last census, 142—the average attendance of colored children at school during the year, in the whole of Hudson County, being 44. The progress and present aspect of the Jersey City Colored School is thus far cheering and encouraging.

**ODD FELLOWS STATISTICS.**—The report of the annual proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Northern New York, at the August Session, held in Albany, has been published. From this report, it appears that the number of Lodges in the jurisdiction is 479, numbering 24,348 members. The deaths in the Order for the year ending June 30, 1854, were 304. The revenue of the Lodges was \$127,699 21. Relief has been afforded to 2,274 brothers of the Order, and 124 widowed families relieved. The amount paid for the relief of members of the Order, during the year, was

\$32,044 50; to widows of deceased members, \$2,351; for burying the dead, \$4,896 41; and other items, making an aggregate of \$33,667 93. The Order in New Jersey is in a flourishing condition. There are 189 Lodges, numbering 7,003 members. The total revenue, for the financial year ending June 30, was \$41,816 73; expended \$10,160 61. Members received, 999; widowed families relieved, 64; members buried, 67.